

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 243198

62

ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PM-03 DODE-00 EUR-08 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-15 NSC-05 NIC-01 ACDA-05 H-01

PA-01 USIA-06 SP-02 SAJ-01 /063 R

DRAFTED BY AF/I:JAANDEREGG:PCS

APPROVED BY AF/I:JAANDEREGG

AF/W:JLOUGHRAN

AF/P:JPOPE

S/PRS:IPERNICK

PM/ISO:MPASTALANIEC

DOD/ISA:GBADER

USN/OP 6-11:CDR HANKINS

----- 124898

R 051534Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 243198

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR GV US

SUBJECT: SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN CONAKRY

REFERENCE: STATE 240598

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THREE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH THREE QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AT DIFFERENT TIMES DURING THE CONFERENCE, THEY ARE GROUPED HERE TO SHOW A CONTINUITY OF THOUGHT. QUOTE:

1. Q. WOULD YOU AGREE WITH SENATOR STENNIS' RECENT OBSERVATION THAT AT THIS POINT THE SOVIET NAVY DOES NOT REALLY HAVE A SUPPORT CAPABILITY TO OPERATE OUTSIDE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN IN ANY SERIOUS MANNER. I THINK I AM FAIRLY SUMMARIZING WHAT SENATOR STENNIS SAID.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 243198

A. I DIDN'T REALLY DETECT THAT AS BEING A STRONG POINT IN

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH BUT I COULDN'T AGREE WITH IT ENTIRELY. I WOULD HAVE TO SAY THIS: THAT THEY LACK THE TECHNIQUE AND THE SUPPORT FORCE SHIPS THAT THE UNITED STATES NAVY HAS FOR EXTENDED OPERATIONS WITHOUT FORWARD BASES.

BUT I SEE THE SOVIETS COMPENSATING FOR THAT BY UTILIZING BASES, FOR EXAMPLE, THE CIENFUGOS IN CUBA AND A GENERAL STRUCTURE WHICH THEY SEEM TO BE SETTING UP AROUND THE WORLD.

2. Q. BEFORE YOU MENTIONED THE SOVIETS ARE BUILDING OVERSEAS BASES. DO YOU HAVE ANY NUMBER? IS THIS A SURGE IN BUILDING BASES?

A. IF I SAID THEY ARE BUILDING THEM, THAT WAS PROBABLY WRONG. THE SOVIETS ARE ACQUIRING OVERSEAS FACILITIES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THEIR FLEET AND I DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR NUMBER. THE PRESIDENT HAS IDENTIFIED THREE MAJOR SOVIET FLEET FACILITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WE KNOW THAT THEY

ARE OPERATING OUT OF FACILITIES IN CUBA. THERE IS A FACILITY ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA. THEY ARE ACQUIRING THESE FACILITIES, AS I SAY, MOVING AHEAD STEADILY, INCREASING THEIR MARITIME CAPABILITY.

3. Q. YOU ARE MENTIONING THE SOVIET NAVAL FACILITY ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA. COULD YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC AND SAY WHAT COUNTRY YOU ARE REFERRING TO?

A. CONAKRY. END QUOTE.

IN ADDITION TO ABOVE TEXT, NAVY ALSO COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS: ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY'S CONCERN CENTERS ON THE SOVIET USE OF FACILITIES IN GUINEA TO MAINTAIN A NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE EASTERN ATLANTIC/WESTERN AFRICA AREA AND THE USE OF AIR FACILITIES FOR RECONNAISSANCE OF UNITS TRANSITING TO THE MEDITERRANEAN. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HEARING OF ANY REACTION FROM THE GUINEAN GOVT OR LOCAL MEDIA OTHER THAN FIRST PRESS REPORTS OF CONFERENCE. WE HAVE SEEN NO FURTHER MEDIA REACTION HERE. INGERSOLL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 243198

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP MOVEMENTS, NAVAL SHIPS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE243198
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JAANDEREGG:PCS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740318-0097
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741169/aaaacgqh.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 240598
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN CONAKRY
TAGS: MARR, GV, US, UR
To: CONAKRY
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005